

# The Observer

THINGS INTERESTING TO THE DEAF

VOL. III.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1911

NO. 56

## MR. GUMAER IN THE CONTEST.

As we have previously mentioned, Charles A. Gumaer, of Seattle, is candidate for delegate to the International Typographical Union Convention which meets in San Francisco in August.

Mr. Gumaer is a man who possesses the knack of "awakening men," and if he goes to the convention the delegates will know he is there. He may be "silent," but he knows how to bring home what he wants to say, to impress men and secure results.

As far as we know this is the first time a deaf man has aspired to the honor of representing his union in that body. Mr. Gumaer's friends everywhere are hoping he succeeds. One of his hearing friends in the office where he works recently wrote up the following in his behalf, which is being circulated throughout the city:

"It was at the Post-Intelligencer composing room, just before starting time, when one of the boys asked another one for whom he would vote as a delegate.

"For Mr. Gumaer, of course," was the answer.

"Well," said the first one, "you are surely a big fool if you will send a 'dummy' as a delegate to a convention."

"The conversation was broken off at that point because the signal for starting the performance was given and joy stunts are not permitted after that.

"The hope that some of those men who, though otherwise broad and fair-minded, have so strong prejudices that they will not step over them, may be won for a good cause is the motive for presenting a few of the arguments in favor of Mr. Gumaer's candidacy.

"The compositor of these lines lived in Oklahoma while the blind U. S. Senator Gore from that state was running for the high office in which he has distinguished himself since then in a way that the people whom he represents may well feel proud of him; but when that man was running for office there were numbers of men who would say that one might have sympathy with a man whom fortune had treated so badly, but that the people had no right to sacrifice a senatorship for sentiments. They could not see how a man, physically thus incapacitated, could see, learn, find out and do things—similar reasons as are brought forth against Mr. Gumaer. Those men in Oklahoma, however, have learned by now that



CHAS. A. GUMAER

there are blind men who know more about this world and what is going on in it than many a one who can read agate without straining his eyes or wearing glasses, and Seattle printers who are now prejudiced against Mr. Gumaer as a delegate will also change their opinion if they only vote right.

"Being deaf and mute a man will naturally not hear any, and learn comparatively few of the many interesting things that are said. He will seldom be a "good fellow" and will not, as a rule, attract much attention. Not being able to easily converse with others he will think and reason instead and more or less live in a world of his own, and if, therefore, his information is less extensive his knowledge will be more deep. Many things will probably look different to him than to others and it ought to be worth while to find out his views on certain subjects. As he has to contend with many handicaps in the struggle for existence he deserves credit when he succeeds after all, especially, when all the hard knocks and disappointments have not been able to destroy his good humor; but when a man, a deaf mute, whom people in general somewhat disregard, and treat with less consideration than he merits, if such a man instead of having a grouch at the world takes life philosophically and interests himself enough in general affairs to offer his services for a good cause, then one should show due consideration for such admirable characteristics and vote for the man.

"Mr. Gumaer may not be able to re-

(CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE)

## PLACE FOR THE NEXT CONVENTION

In response to a request for a copy of the official report of the Secretary covering the discussion of the place for the next meeting, Mr. Regensbrug sends the following:

Mr. Roberts was Acting Secretary Saturday afternoon, August 13th, and confined himself briefly to recording motions. Mr. Hasenstab, who took stenographic notes, did not go into detail. Putting both together I have as follows:

"Mr. W. H. Rothert invited the Association to meet in Omaha in 1913, and read invitations from the business organizations of this city.

"Rev. Mr. Michaels in a strong address presented the claims of Atlanta.

"Mr. C. H. Loucks tendered an invitation from Aberdeen, S. D., citizens.

"Rev. J. H. Cloud read a letter of invitation from St. Louis business men.

"Mr. Rothert moved that the Ex. Com. be instructed to select Omaha as the next convention city. Motion was seconded, but lost.

"Rev. J. H. Cloud moved that the Ex. Com. take a mail vote to decide on the place of holding the next convention. Seconded.

"Rev. P. J. Hasenstab: I offer as a substitute motion to refer the whole matter to the Ex. Com.

"This amendment, duly seconded, was passed."

### ATLANTA.

Although Atlanta has withdrawn her invitation to the Association to meet there, it will not be out of place to state the inducements that were offered, in order that it may go on record.

At the Colorado Springs convention a neatly printed little booklet was freely distributed by the Southern delegates, containing invitations to meet in Atlanta, from which the following extracts are made:  
To the National Association of the Deaf, Colorado Springs, Col.

### Greeting:

The Silent Folk of the South have never had the pleasure of entertaining the National Convention, but crave that privilege in 1913.

Atlanta, the capital and commercial center of the greatest Southern commonwealth, opens her hearts, homes and hospitalities to you. Here has been builded a city that challenges

the admiration of all visitors, compels the attention of all investors, and charms every guest who comes within its magic borders.

The sun land, the song land, the Southland invites you to the witchery of the magnolia, the bay and the fleecy fields, come but once within the spell and all silent lips will sing the praises that speech seems inadequate to express.

We present you with the Convention sign and password: 1913—Atlanta—1913.

With earnest hope that we may greet you here,

#### THE ATLANTA DEAF.

The Mayor of Atlanta, under date of June 20th, 1910, extends the following official invitation:

In behalf of all the people of the City of Atlanta, I invite your Association to hold its next Triennial Convention in Atlanta.

In connection with the invitation I may say that the City of Atlanta has recently completed the construction of a large auditorium. This building is amply equipped with commodious committee rooms, and the entire building will be gladly placed at your disposal.

I earnestly hope that in selecting the place for your next convention, you will give Atlanta the most serious consideration, as our people will be most delighted to have your convention meet here, and will give all your delegates a cordial and hospitable welcome. Yours very truly,

ROBT. F. MADDOX, Mayor.

Georgia State Association of the Deaf.

Atlanta, Ga., July 6th, 1910.

President National Association of the Deaf.

On behalf of the Georgia Association of the Deaf, I extend to the National Association of the Deaf a cordial invitation to hold its next convention in the beautiful and enterprising city of Atlanta.

The Association has never yet held a meeting in the real South—the land of cotton, 'possum and sweet 'taters. Atlanta, young, hustling, and ambitious, is, next to New Orleans, the chief metropolis of the South and well worth a trip across the continent to see. Come and get acquainted with the South and her people. A more warm-hearted and progressive people can be found nowhere than in the city of Atlanta. And they are true blue Americans—every one of them.

They will give you a genuine old-fashioned welcome, and every one knows what that means. Truly yours,

S. M. FREEMAN, President.

MRS. C. L. JACKSON, Secretary.

Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

June 20th, 1910.

National Association of the Deaf, Colorado Springs, Col.

Gentlemen: The Atlanta Chamber

of Commerce, representing the substantial and progressive business interests of this city, takes great pleasure in extending to your honorable body a cordial invitation to hold its next meeting here.

Atlanta is a beautiful city, in the heart of the most progressive region in the South, and visitors have ample facilities for seeing the city and its environment, as we have a more extensive street car system than any other city in the United States for the same population.

If this invitation is accepted we are sure you will enjoy your stay and you will have no reason to regret the selection of Atlanta as your place of meeting. Yours very truly,

FREDERIC J. PAXON, President.

WALTER G. COOPER, Secretary.

#### Executive Department.

Atlanta, Ga., June 21st, 1910.

To the National Association of the Deaf.

It gives me great pleasure to join others in extending you a very cordial invitation to hold your next meeting in Atlanta, the capital city of the State of Georgia.

I am quite sure that if you should accept the invitation you would receive a very cordial Southern welcome and find your stay an exceedingly pleasant one. Respectfully,

JOSEPH M. BROWN, Governor.

Atlanta Division No. 28, N. F. S. D. National Association of the Deaf.

In behalf of the Atlanta Division No. 28, N. F. S. D., we cordially extend you an invitation to hold your next convention in our beautiful and progressive city, in the real heart of the South. Come and see what our beautiful Southland is.

You can rest assured we will do our utmost to make the next convention a success, and that you will find a warm Southern welcome awaiting you. Respectfully,

L. B. DICKERSON,

I. H. MARCHMAN,

W. E. GHOLDSTON,

Committee.

The booklet closes with a pretty poem by L. F. Shaffer, setting forth the beauty, coolness, and other advantages of Atlanta as a convention city.

In a letter dated Atlanta, Dec. 27th, 1910, the Atlanta deaf withdrew their invitation. The reasons therefor, and the correspondence on the subject, which is somewhat lengthy, was published in the Southern Optimist, Jan. 15th and Feb. 1st, 1911, and it is not necessary to repeat it here.

At the Colorado convention, in addition to the published invitations, other inducements were offered.

In response to a request for a specific statement of these offers the following has been received:

Atlanta, Ga., March 26th, 1911.

Mr. Olof Hanson, President N. A. D., Seattle, Wash.

My Dear Mr. Hanson: President Freeman of the Georgia Association of the Deaf has referred your letter of March 12th to me for reply.

At the closing hours of the last convention the Atlanta and Georgia deaf made a verbal offer pledging themselves to raise \$1,500, and to work for an attendance and membership of 2,000. Rev. Michaels backed this up, pledging himself to raise another \$1,500, in the other Southern states, thus making a total of \$3,000. I may add that there is not the least doubt that it would have been raised.

The above will cover your inquiries. I think, and will convince you that Atlanta's invitation was genuine and bona fide. Very truly yours,

MRS. C. L. JACKSON, Sec., G. A. D.

The Tennessee Association of the Deaf, which met in Knoxville in September, passed resolutions endorsing Atlanta. A number of letters favoring the same city were also received last fall.

The above concerning Atlanta is cited that it may go on record, as well as for the information of those who were not present at the convention. That our Southern friends were very much in earnest in their desire for the convention admits of no question. Their action in withdrawing their invitation is to be regretted, but as they have done so, and for reasons which to them seemed sufficient, the matter need not be discussed further.

#### OMAHA.

Mr. W. H. Rothert presented the claims of Omaha at the Convention in Colorado Springs.

In response to a request for a statement as to the definite offers made, the following telegram, which was sent to Mr. Rothert at Colorado Springs, has been forwarded.

Omaha, Neb., Aug. 10, 1910.

W. H. Rothert, National Convention for the Deaf, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Commercial Club of Omaha extends cordial invitation to your organization to meet in Omaha 1913. Will guarantee best of entertainment, place of meeting free, badges, souvenirs, auto and trolley rides, etc. Our publicity department will co-operate, spending all money necessary to advertise meeting, secure largest attendance possible, furnish headquarters for officers, etc.

COMMERCIAL CLUB OF OMAHA,

Will A. Campbell, Manager.

The Omaha deaf have sent out literature setting forth the advantages of Omaha as a convention city.

A number of letters favoring Omaha have been received, and will be presented later as discussion. This merely presents the offers made by the city. (CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE)

# THE OBSERVER

SEATTLE, WASH., MAY 11, 1911

L. O. CHRISTENSON, Publisher.

The Observer is issued every two weeks on Thursday. It is published in the interest of the deaf everywhere.

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**CONTRIBUTIONS.**

Contributions, subscriptions and business letters should be addressed to

L. O. CHRISTENSON,

2 Kincaid Building, 1426 Fourth Ave. Seattle, Wash.

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**A COMPLIMENT TO THE FRATS.**

A life insurance agent recently called on the writer, soliciting business. Being told there was nothing wanted, he asked our opinion of various companies, if we had any protest coming. We replied that if we joined any company it would probably be the N. F. S. D. His answer was, "That is a mighty good organization, based on sound principles."

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF.**

The question of deciding on the location of the next convention is now before the Executive Committee. The offers made by each city which has asked for the convention is briefly outlined in this issue. The matter will be open to discussion by the Executive Committee, and by other members of the Association. Discussion should be addressed to me. Discussion by non-members will not be considered, unless they join the Association. After the matter has been fairly discussed, a vote will be taken by the Executive Committee.

Papers desiring to keep their readers posted are at liberty to quote from the discussion in the Journal. Those who desire to see the discussion in full should take the Journal, which is the official organ of the Association, and will contain full information concerning this and other matters affecting the Association.

OLOF HANSON,

President N. A. D.,

4739 14th Ave. N. E., Seattle, Wash.

**ONLY FOUR.**

Send us the names of four of your friends and four dollars and we will send them each the Observer for one year and in addition will make you a present of a year's subscription.

**FINAL REPORT OF CHEFOO SCHOOL COLLECTION.**

The collection for the school for deaf in China has been rather disappointing this year, only a little over half of that sent last year.

Possibly the deaf have good reasons for neglecting to contribute, but we think Mrs. Mills' struggling school in far-away China is worthy of better support from the deaf of this country.

The following is the amount to date, which we expect to send very soon:

Through Trinity Bible Class, previously reported .....	\$30.30
M. O. Smith .....	.10
Mrs. Wildfang .....	.10
J. E. Gustin .....	.15
Mrs. P. Gustin .....	.15
Portland deaf .....	\$3.80
Tacoma deaf .....	15.90
Helen A. Peck, Colville, Wash....	3.30
Helen A. Peck, Colville, Wash....	1.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$51.00</b>

(CONTINUED FROM SECOND PAGE)

**ABERDEEN, S. D.**

At the Colorado Springs Convention Mr. C. H. Loucks received and read a telegram from citizens of Aberdeen offering \$500 as an entertainment fund in case the Convention should come to Aberdeen.

Under date of April 12th Mr. Loucks writes as follows in reply to a request for definite information:

"The City of Aberdeen has given me permission to double the amount of bid that I made for her at Colorado Springs, but in the interest of harmony the deaf of the state think it best to withdraw from this race.

Accordingly I do hereby withdraw Aberdeen's offer.

Thanking you for the opportunity to present Aberdeen's bid and wishing you the best of success, I am, yours truly,

CHAS. H. LOUCKS.

ST. LOUIS.

An invitation from St. Louis was presented at Colorado Springs by Rev. Mr. Cloud.

A request for definite information as to the offers made was mailed March 12th, but no reply has yet been received.

**OTHER CITIES.**

The claims of other cities will be presented in the next number of the Journal. Discussion will follow and ample time will be given for the presenting of the advantages of each contestant before a vote is taken by the Executive Committee.

OLOF HANSON, Chairman Ex. Com. Seattle, May 8th, 1911.

**DO YOU KNOW** that less than four centuries ago illiteracy was so general that the English Parliament passed a law providing for those of its members who were unable to read; while now ability to read and write is general, even amongst the poorest classes?

**MR. GUMAER IN THE CONTEST.**

organize the I. T. U. single-handed; there is no doubt, however, but that he will do as much good for the union as any other man that may be sent to the convention; the arguments he may put forth through an interpreter (and he will be able to follow the proceedings) will be listened to with more than ordinary attention and altogether he will act in a way as to be a credit to the union that sends him.

"Every member of Seattle Typographical Union No. 202, who, on May 17, votes for Chas. A. Gumaer will do a meritorious act and will have reason to feel good when he thinks about it."

The campaign cards which Mr. Gumaer is circulating bear the following: "Member of I. T. U. since 1885. Educated by the boys and in the printing shop. Silent meditation has accomplished more for the world than peddling hot air."

**DEAF-MUTE CANDIDATE FOR PRINTERS' DELEGATE**

The following is clipped from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer:

"The printers are soon to select two delegates to their national convention and consequently these are loquacious days in the composing rooms. In its limited sphere this election causes almost limitless discussion, and this year the discussion is none the quieter by reason of the fact that one of the candidates, C. A. Gumaer, is a deaf-mute. Mr. Gumaer works in the Post-Intelligencer linotype department and he divides the support of his chapel with Harry A. Miller and Charles Segbers. Nightly before time is called there are empathic discussions as to whether or no a delegate is any better by reason of having a gift of speech. To all of which Mr. Gumaer is an interested onlooker. His supporters base their arguments for his efficiency on the success of blind senator Gore, of Oklahoma, and are insistent on their arguments that very little harm has been done by persons keeping still.

The convention will be held in San Francisco in August."

**RIGHT KIND OF ENTHUSIASM**

The local committee in Seattle is going ahead making plans for the entertainment of the State convention. A few of the plans were announced in the latest issue of The Observer. In this school Carl Garrison has printed a couple hundred post-cards to mail to all the deaf whose addresses could be secured. The cards bear a personal invitation to attend and we hope the purpose will be accomplished—to swell the attendance at the convention.—Washingtonian.

The deaf of Columbus, Ohio, are raising funds for a memorial window to the late Rev. A. W. Mann.

## LOCAL ITEMS

"Kernel" Vincent is quite a stained glass artist.

Miss Charlotte Gustin now has a piano in her home.

Miss Eleanor Morris' friends are glad to welcome her home from Spokane.

Elmer Johnson of Sumas, Wash., has been in town this week. He expects to take a trip East looking for work.

Miss Myrtle Hammond is now happy. Her mother has come to Seattle to reside and of course likes the place.

A letter from the Wrights on the farm report them all well and happy. Of course they will be up to the convention.

Miss Mabel Scanlan spent Saturday and Sunday at her home in Everett. Her mother has just returned from some time spent in California.

Mrs. J. Theo. De Gork, sister of L. O. Christenson, returned Thursday to her home in Portland after an enjoyable visit of several weeks with her brother and mother, Mrs. H. J. Grubb.

Monthly business meeting of the Puget Sound Association of the Deaf will be held this week Saturday evening at the usual place. Out of town guests are expected.

We extend congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Swangren, whose wedding took place in Oregon last week. As they will reside at Emunclaw, Wash., we shall expect to see them in Seattle often.

David Deibert, formerly of Webb City, Missouri, is in Seattle and has a position as a printer with the Lewis Sears Paper Company. He has been here one month, but just located the deaf people

## MAKE IT 200.

Local arrangements for the state convention are progressing finely. It now seems certain that the time from Saturday night to Wednesday night will be chuck full of "good time."

We want 200 present!

Every deaf person in the state should take hold and help to this end.

Punch your friend in the side and tell him to keep awake and be there.

Write to your best girl or some other fellow's girl and be sure they are all here.

If you have a friend anywhere in the state be sure he or she knows all about the convention and is pledged to attend.

It's your business to help get the crowd here and it will be our business to give you a good time when you get here.

We hope to have a whole lot of the most intelligent deaf present and some of the finest sign makers in the country.

If you have not yet decided to attend, just put your foot down now and say, "Ise comin'."

"From Spokane's icy mountains  
To Vancouver's coral strands."

These lines are a little mixed, but never mind.

## TACOMA.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Swangren, who were married May 3rd in Oregon, were visitors in Tacoma Sunday, May 7th, but we were all so unfortunate as to be away from home and miss seeing them.

It is rumored that one of our young men is to be married to a charming young lady of Seattle ere long. We are all very much pleased over the prospect.

Mr. Eaton, who has long borne the sobriquet "Old Mule" among his associates, recently unearthed on his premises a mule shoe which he has hung above his door to insure good luck to him and his. But—pray how can one tell a mule shoe from a horse shoe?

Mr. and Mrs. Foster gave a very successful party on the evening of April 29th at which Mr. and Mrs. Gustin, Miss Scanlan and Mr. Meagher, of Seattle, were present, besides quite a number of our local deaf. Several amusing games were played and refreshments were served just before the crowd dispersed.

At the semi-annual election of officers of the T. L. C., May 7th, the following new officers were elected: President, Mr. Rowan; vice president, Otha Minnick; secretary, Miss Slegel; treasurer, Mrs. Seeley; doorkeeper, Simon Eaton. The new president, Mr. Rowan, promises some great times in the near future.

A very pleasant time was had at American Lake Sunday, April 30th, by the visitors from Seattle and the following Tacomas: Mr. and Mrs. Hammond, Miss Slegel, Mr. and Mrs. Wade, Mrs. Seeley and Mr. Rowan.

Sunday, April 30th, Mr. and Mrs. Wade entertained the following at dinner: Mr. and Mrs. Gustin, Miss Scanlan and Mr. Meagher of Seattle and Mr. and Mrs. Hammond.

Several of the deaf attended the opening of the new depot May 1st. It is reported to be the grandest ever, and even Chicago and Philadelphia haven't one as fine. Hurrah for Tacoma.

Dwight Chase is now employed at the Wheeler-Osgood factory.

Mr. Vincent was in Tacoma Sunday, April 30th. He thinks Tacoma is the finest city in the United States—the fastest growing, the most progressive, etc. He was surprised to see all the new skyscrapers we are having built and says he hasn't seen the like outside of New York. Mr. Vincent came here from Seattle. (Oh, we know his reputation over here.—Ed.)

Mrs. Hutson has more auto rides to her credit than all the rest of us put together. Hardly a week passes but that one of her friends takes her out for a jolting.

Mrs. Wade had her first auto ride

not long ago but didn't enjoy it. Her friends tell her she will love it after she gets used to it. It's safer not to get used to it, we think.

## TACOMA WON

A debate was recently held in Tacoma. The subject was Divorce. J. F. Meagher of Seattle upheld legal separation, while Mrs. Seeley of Tacoma opposed it. The five judges after deliberation decided in Mrs. Seeley's favor by a vote of 4 to 1.

## A LAW AGAINST IMPOSTORS.

The Committee on Legislation of the Minnesota Association of the Deaf, consisting of Mr. Anton Schroeder, Mr. A. R. Spear and Mr. J. C. Howard, have succeeded in having the following law placed upon the statute books:

A BILL for an Act to Amend Chapter 487 of 1909, defining who are Vagrants and providing for their punishment.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. That Subdivision 8, Chapter 487 of the Laws of 1909 be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

8. A person engaged in, practicing or attempting any trick or device to procure money or other thing of value, if such trick or device is made a public offense by any law of the state, or any person engaged in soliciting, procuring or attempting to solicit money or procure money or other thing of value by falsely pretending and representing himself to be blind, deaf, dumb, without arms or legs, or to be otherwise physically deficient, or to be suffering from any physical defect or infirmity.

Every such person shall upon conviction thereof be punished by imprisonment not exceeding ninety (90) days, or by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100).

In order to make such a law constitutional it could not apply to "deaf" impostors alone. That would be class legislation. Consequently it was made to cover all classes of impostors. In the hands of an efficient judge this law will be about all that will be required.

We believe this to be the first instance where the deaf have secured the passage of such a law.

It is to be hoped that every State Association in the country will take the matter up and have a similar law passed in each state.—Jay Cooke Howard, in N. Y. Journal.

## FOR SIX MONTHS

School papers will soon cease to exist for the summer. Still you need the news. Why not send in 50 cents at once for The Observer for six months.

The best proof of courage is taking your own ills with cheer.

## Portland, Oregon

A very pretty wedding took place at Metzger about 15 miles out of the city Wednesday evening, May 3rd, when Ernest Swangren of Enumolaw, Wash., and Miss Ethel Morton of Metzger were united into marriage. Rev. Du Bois of the Grand Avenue Church officiated and S. T. Walker interpreted. Little Rebecca Reichle acted as ring-bearer. The bride was becomingly gowned in a white lace net costume and carried an armful of Calla lilies tied with a white bow. After the ceremony the guests were seated around a table beautifully decorated with apple blossoms and ferns and a large Jardine and Calla lilies in the middle where ice-cream and cake were served.

The happy couple left the following Friday for Enumclaw, Wash., where they will be at home to their friends after May tenth.

Besides the relatives of the bride those from the city who attended the wedding were Rev. and Mrs. Du Bois, Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf, Mr. and Mrs. Reichle, Mrs. Murphy, Misses Bond, Pickett, Thomas and Burnett, Messrs. Walker, Jacoby, Lawrence, Spieler and Mathers. Mr. and Mrs. Swangren have the best wishes of their friends for a happy and joyful married life.

One of the most delightful events of the season was the social held at the Y. W. C. A. parlors Tuesday, April 18th arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Reichle and Miss Bond when forty of the deaf people gathered. President Reichle of the society opened the program with a short talk followed by an address by Rev. Du Bois and S. T. Walker. Mrs. Reichle recited "Seeking for Me." A few new games were played and home-made fudges served. A very enjoyable evening was passed.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Urban are the happy parent of a 8-lb. baby girl born on the 14th of April. Congratulations.

Miss Fay Newth returned to school at Salem after spending a month here with her sister. She is a happy aunt of a new niece.

Chas. Lawrence has recently purchased a lot 50 x 100 in Woodlawn a suburb and expects to build a little house in the near future.

Mrs. Kerr and children of Wisconsin came here the early part of April and are staying with Mrs. Lidberg, a sister of Mrs. Kerr. OREGONIAN.

### WHAT A SCHOOL PAPER SAYS

It is not often that we raise our voice in condemnation but the recent act of the Nebraska Legislature abolishing the use of signs and placing the school for the Deaf of Nebraska on a single method basis calls for nothing but condemnation. Perhaps if the statesman (?) who compose that legislature could have gags placed in their mouths and plugs in their ears and be required to express themselves in some UNNATURAL

## Send This On With A Dollar

Mr. L. O. Christenson, Publisher of The Observer,

Dear Sir: Desiring to aid in the maintenance of live, wide-awake, independent paper for the deaf I enclose one dollar for a year subscription to THE OBSERVER.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

way, they might realize what a lesson they have handed the deaf of their state. It is enough to be classed with the idiots, insane and criminals of a state but to require by legal enactment that all deaf SHALL use one and only one method in communication and in receiving instruction is adding injury to insult. Some of the deaf of every state CAN be taught by the oral method but no state in the Union can successfully instruct all its deaf children or even a majority by the oral method and any honest and fair-minded educator of the deaf knows it. Christ could perform miracles but legislatures cannot, tho' such actions as above cited certainly, would make some people think that they thought they could.

What will be the result of this step forward (?) in Nebraska? A small, very small, percent of the deaf will perhaps make reasonable progress under such a system but the great majority will be "quitted", not graduated and will leave school long before they have acquired anything like the education they need. We pause right here to quote from an editorial in the Kentucky Standard anent oral teaching and some of the difficulties. Speaking of trained teachers the Standard says "These trained teachers are eagerly sought, and of course the school with the longest purse has the advantage here. The result is that the schools must take what they can get which is usually a miss just out of a boarding school and hardly out of her teens, with a few weeks' course of training in the elements of vocal utterance. Of the larger problems of the work and of the deaf themselves the young people know nothing. What wonder there are so many woeful failures,—so many spoiled classes."

The legislature of Nebraska has made a blunder and the deaf children will "pay the freight." We have all heard of the doctor who admitted that he had spoiled a hatful of eyes in becoming an oculist. Well, Nebraska will sacrifice a good many hatfuls of brains of deaf children in the effort to make water run

up hill. Some people learn only by experience but it is pretty tough on the people who have to do the putting up. Our sympathy is extended to the deaf children of Nebraska on their misfortune. Thank goodness, the people of North Dakota are still satisfied with the Combined System and can distinguish between brain development and voice culture. It seems incredible that any sane body of men would deliberately pass such a law if they looked into the subject and were actuated by any desire to give a square deal to the deaf.—North Dakota Banner.

### WOO BY SIGN TALK, MUTE PAIR TO WED

A few months ago Arthur Gabel sat with his sweetheart, Miss Lillian Kunish, in the parlor at her home, 3133 W. 46th street. The light was not turned down, for had it been so conversation would have suffered a handicap. Both are deaf-mutes

As the result of the messages that went from fingers to eyes the pair are to be married this afternoon in the house of St. Prokop's Church, W. 41st street and Trent avenue.

Gabel and Miss Kunish have been friends since childhood. Together they played while while boy and girl. They bore the gibes and mimicry of other boys and girls who made fun of their method of conversing.

When Miss Kunish started to school at the E. 55th street school for the Deaf and Dumb, Gabel went, too. They studied together and later went to Columbus together to further their education at the State school for the Deaf and Dumb.

Their schooling finished, Gabel went to work at the H. Black & Co. garment factory at Superior avenue and E. 19th street, as a cutter. A few weeks later Miss Kunish was working at a machine near that of Gabel.

Tomorrow Gabel will go to work alone. But at his parents' home, 1235 Ethel street, Lakewood, the girl, no longer Miss Kunish, will busy herself with her duties of a housewife.—Cleveland Leader, Wednesday, April 19, 1911.

**TELL 'EM YOU'RE FEELIN' FINE.**

There ain't no use in kickin', friend, if things don't come your way,  
It does no good to holler 'round an' grumble night an' day;  
The thing to do is to curb yer grief—cut yer little whine,  
An' when they ask you who you are, jest, say, "I'm feelin' fine."

They ain't no man alive but that is booked to get his slap.  
They ain't no man that walks but what from trouble gets his rap;  
Go mingle with the bunch, old boy, where all the bright lights shine,  
An' when they ask you how you are, jest say, "I'm feelin' fine."

Yer heart may be jest bustin' with some real or fancied woe,  
But if you smile the other folks ain't very apt to know;  
The old world laughs at heartaches, friend, be they yer own er mine,  
So when they ask you how you are, jest say, "I'm feelin' fine."

—Anonymous.

**COMPOSER OF MUSIC BUT CANNOT HEAR**

Lacking the faculty of speech, also unable to hear save by an audiphone, William B. Egan, a linotype operator at Silver Belt, Arizona, has nevertheless written the words and composed the music for several songs, and is now engaged in writing a play. Egan's home is in Alameda, and his wife is employed by the Oakland Enquirer. As is frequently the case those who are bereft of certain human faculties, Egan's power of observation is unusually acute. He seems to see what others hear. Thus he is possessed of a fund of information and a thorough knowledge of human nature.

His songs are principally of a humorous nature—"I Wish I Were a Camel"; "You Won, I Lost"; and "Come to the Church with Me, Please" are among the best of the compositions published and from which he has received substantial returns.

Besides the play upon which he is now working, Egan has written two playlets that have been produced—"In a Few Moments" and "The Unlicensed Doctor."

His latest idea is to write a play for mutes, in the mute language, played by those who are unable to speak or hear, for the benefit of others similarly afflicted.

One of the young composer's greatest pleasures is to stand with his hand upon an electric piano, "sensing" the music and obtaining a sense of time for his own compositions.

His work on the linotype is aided also by this ability to catch the slightest vibration indicating any defect in the working of the machine.

Egan studied at the Berkeley institute for the deaf and finished his course at Georgetown university.—Ex.

**A TACOMA FISH STORY**

This is true, although a fish story. Facts you know are ever stranger than fiction. April 2nd Messrs. Rowan and Bander went out to the Rowland ranch to go fishing with William. Mr. Bander broke his new five dollar rod and caught one trout. Mr. Rowan got nothing except an unexpected plunge into the creek. William Rowland landed one hundred and eighteen trout and one "flounder," which although he didn't give it "away" we are sure weighted about 125 pounds. There was trout for supper at the Rowland home that evening, which the fortunate yet unfortunate city boys shared, after which they returned to the city, each taking along a goodly number of trout donated by William. Mr. Rowan took his share to—but that's another story!

**WILL HAVE TO OBEY**

Judge Gatens of the circuit court was called upon to marry deaf mutes. The principals were A. M. Stalker of Silverton and Mrs. M. A. Richly of Portland. The couple have made love to each other for several months by mail. They will live at Silverton.

When they applied at the clerk's office for a license they wrote out their request. When they entered the private office of Judge Gaatens, his honor knew what they wanted, for the groom carried the necessary permit, and the bride was blushing. The ceremony was written for them, and they answered the questions by nodding their heads.

After the ceremony Judge Gatens wrote the following on a slip of paper and handed it to the bride: "If he does not behave bring him back."

To this the bride replied in writing: "I'll make him obey, alright."

She laughed as she wrote this, and shook her finger at the groom.—In Portland Journal, dated April 16th.

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